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JUDGE JOSEPH WIX.

A Biographical Sketch of his Early Life.

Some Interesting Notes of the Settlement of Pleasant Gap.

One of the oldest of the yet living pioneers of Bates county, is Judge Joseph Wix of Pleasant Gap township. An interview with him at his home, put us in possession of the following facts. He was born in Overton County Tennessee, in 1820. While this makes him twenty five years younger than Dr. Requa, yet the Dr. has been a resident of this county, only two years longer than the Judge. At about the age of eight years, he was taken to Hamilton county Ill., where his father's family settled. Seven years afterward they removed to western Illinois, his father dying with cholera upon the road. In the fall of 1838, being then eighteen years of age, he made a trip to south west Missouri, and Indian Territory. Notwithstanding his youth and inexperience, he gave careful attention to the natural features and capacities of the various sections through which he traveled, with a view of finally selecting a location for himself which should eventually be in a wealthy, prosperous and every way desirable neighborhood for a home for life. In the spring of 1839 he worked along back to Polk county, Missouri, and in a tavern (they did not call them hotels in those days) he chanced to hear a man remark that the country in the vicinity of Harmony Mission was the best he ever carried a chain over. Entering into conversation with him, he found him to be a Government Surveyor, and as the result of the conversation he turned his course towards the Mission, arriving there the first days of August 1839. Found two French traders (Collee & Papin) established at Collee's ford 3 miles below where Papinville now stands. The Indians having receded westward they that fall moved their trading post to what is now Lynn county Kansas. Have not been able to ascertain when these traders first established themselves in the county. The Harmony Mission having been disbanded, and the government having bought the improvements made by the missionaries they were under lease to Col. James Allen (a son of this man was the Allen that married the eldest daughter of Dr. Jones. Another son was Robert Allen who lately died in Clinton.) After Allen's lease the property went to waste, and the Government never received further benefit from the \$8,000 paid the A. B. C. F. M. for the improvements. The land was held as a reservation by the Government for some years, but finally disposed of, and much trouble and litigation arose about the title that was not finally settled till since the civil war. After a careful survey of the locality the subject of our sketch decided, that he had found that for which he had been seeking and (there being ample room for picking) selected what is now in sec. 1 tp. 39 range 30 which has ever since been his home. The land was not then in market, not having been sectionized, although the range lines had been run. Northeast of where Wix settled, what is now Deepwater Tp. was sectionized and put into market about that time. But west of range line between 29 and 30 in what is now is a first-class agricultural country the land remained unsurveyed for years, the surveyors having reported it not worth the expense of surveying. But after many settlers had located upon it, it was decided to be worth something and was sectionized and put in market. At the time the Judge settled there were not to exceed 150 acres of land in cultivation within a radius of five miles.

Mr. Wix never gave much attention to hunting but could always easily procure what game was needed for food, sometimes killing 4 or 5 deer in one day. In the timber along the larger streams were plenty of wild hogs, supposed to be descended from hogs escaped long before from the early French settlers in the eastern part of the State. They were sometimes killed for food but after domesticated hogs were introduced, the wild ones were driven off to prevent them from enticing their away. The settlers all went long distances to house-raising, the houses being mostly log

cabins. The following are the names of all the earliest settlers of Pleasant Gap township. The Osbornes, a large family from Illinois. Two families of Requa's in the Southwest. Old Daniel Francis and his two sons-in-law, Arthur and Constable, and one Abram Towner were refugees from the Mormon settlement in Jackson county Missouri, having settled here after the Mormons were driven from Independence. Two families named Harris and Collins lived near the center of the township. Uncle Jimmy Ridge was where he still lives. A family named Walker at what is now Pleasant Gap village. A family of Beatty's completes the list of those who settled there in 1839 or previously. Other information given by Judge Wix concerning the settlers of Deepwater, and Hudson will be given in other articles.

JUDGE WIX'S FAMILY.

Mr. Wix married Sarah Beatty in Dec. 1841. She died in 1854, leaving living children having lost three. The oldest John D. was accidentally shot during the war. The second boy, Clark, now lives in Deepwater Tp. Thomas H. and A. S. now live in Kansas. Louis, the youngest, is now in Texas.

Mr. Wix married a Mrs. Cox, a widow, in 1858. She had two children, Francis A. and Joseph F. She died in 1864. In January 1867, he married Rosanna Dewese, his present wife. She has two children living, having lost three.

The first post office in the east part of the county was established in 1840 near where Pleasant Gap village now is. An old man from Kentucky named Anderson Cockrell was the postmaster. A mail route was established from Booneville through Clinton, Pleasant Gap to Balltown. The first school house (except at Harmony Mission) was in Deepwater township, in the Sutenhinger neighborhood. The second was in section 1, within less than half a mile of Wix's house. It was built of logs, floored with puncheons. (As most of our young people never saw a "puncheon" we will explain that they were made by selecting the finest timber and splitting it into strips as uniform in thickness and as wide as possible and then hewing to the required shape for floor planks). The school of course was supported by "rate bills," there being no "public school fund." Neighboring townships furnished some of the pupils, some coming from as great a distance as 20 miles and hiring board that they might attend the school which flourished finely. The first teacher was S. D. Cockrell, son of the postmaster. He was hired by the year for three years in succession. The house was also used for religious meetings, the earliest preacher being "Uncle Dicky," a good old negro from Balltown, who came occasionally as circumstances would permit. He was a Presbyterian and afterwards went as a preacher with the negroes sent to Liberia, Africa, by the Colonization Society. The first church organization in the east part of the county (except Harmony Mission) was in Deepwater and was a Methodist. The second was and "Old Baptist" in Wix's neighborhood. They also held the school house for religious worship. The next church was in the Osborne neighborhood and was of the Christian denomination.

A man named Beaver established the first blacksmith shop a quarter of a mile north of where Pleasant Gap now stands. Previous to that the settlers went to Wm. Tyree, who had a shop on Deepwater just over the Henry county line. The first store at Pleasant Gap was kept by a man named Joseph Smith. Exact date not known, but about 1850. Settlers soon became sufficiently numerous so that Mr. Wix had good neighbors not very far distant, and the real hardships of pioneer life were soon over. He was and still is a man of energy and perseverance, is sure to accomplish whatever he sets his hand to, is reliable and trustworthy in every respect and possesses the respect and confidence of a large circle of acquaintances. He served as Justice of the Peace for a long time and was also once a member of the county court. He was largely engaged in farming and stock raising and, when the war came on, had accumulated quite a large property. He was always at heart opposed to slavery, but as he recognized it to be allowed by law he never had any disposition to interfere with it, but as far as his vote and influence (properly and lawfully exerted) would go, he was opposed to its extension into

free territory, and consequently had nothing to do with the Kansas border war. When the civil war came up he was a staunch Union man and in favor of supporting the Government. Being always in the habit of expressing his opinions freely, he of course could not remain neutral as affairs then existed in this section. He was enrolled in company K, of the 60th regiment of the militia, commanded by Capt. Newberry. Being in poor health, in 1863 he removed to Kansas, and staid until the war was over. His health continuing poor he went in 1880 to Washington Territory in a wagon, and returned in 1881, and is now living at his old home.

A Rejoinder.

Rich Hill, Mo., Feb. 25th, '82.

ED. TIMES: A harmless joke is a good thing, wit and fun help to enliven this work a day life, even as a patch of blue sky, or a rift of sunlight, brightens a leaden horizon.

It has ever been asserted by some scientist, from a physiological and hygienic point of view, that the man who possesses the power of convulsing a crowd, with peals of laughter, is really more of a benefactor to his race, than are nine-tenths of our pill-venders, backed by any number of diplomas; There is, however, no one thing, in this life, good or evil, but, may be taken, or carried to an inglorious extent.

The above assertion is well illustrated by the hoax, which called out the scathing protest, under the head of "Political Correspondent," signed, "many Democrats," which appeared in one of your Dailies, some two weeks ago. It was a bitter denunciation of a possible nominee for the coming congressional campaign. With all due respect for, and appreciation of the nobility, and integrity of purpose and character, evinced by the writers of that protest, and protest their scorn, and horror of the character of the rumored, nominee, we must be permitted to hint that the credulity evinced in so readily accepting a poor joke as a fixed fact verges upon gullibility. The truth of the matter is simply this. A few fun-loving, "wagish" politicians, knowing how like a mounting devil in the heart rules mad ambition," proposed to experiment, for "the sport of the thing." They whispered in their victims ear, candidate for congress, then stood back hugely enjoying the wild pulsations of vanity, and self esteem, that resulted. Little did our wags imagine, that their would be joke, was to go out broadcast, and that good and true men, would accept it as bonafied, and mourn for the degeneracy of their party.

Surely Mr. Editor, you will agree with me that their fun was carried too far, and that the whole thing was too bad a hoax. We have societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, and surely cruelty to human beings is more reprehensible. Then again, Mr. Times, the poor victim of their hoggerly—some of our wise M. D's assert—shows decidedly more symptoms of hydrocephalus than brain. If this be true, and the perpetrators were cognizant of this fact, in common humanity we can only pronounce the whole thing, as wicked and cruel and most reprehensible every way.

JUSTICE.

Geo. Leis, Secretary Leis Chemical Man'g Co., Dear Sir: I take pleasure in testifying to the remarkable effect produced by your Dandelion Tonic, not only on myself, but upon several parties working for me. One John Daniels was very low with fever and indigestion. I furnished him with several bottles of your Tonic, and it entirely cured him. He swears by it, and thinks there is no substitute for it.

B. D. PALMER, Clerk District Court.

We came near buying a patent churn this morning. We offered the patent right man a five dollar william for one of his churns if he would throw in a good milk cow. All that split the trade was the cow—he wouldn't throw it in.

Boots and Shoes, Consignee's Sale

AT THE

FACTORY STORE

On South Side of the Square,

Call and examine **QUALITY**
Call and compare **PRICES.**

McClintock & Burns.

PALMER DENIES

That Tilden Ever Made Any Improper Political Advances to Him.

Chicago, Feb. 25.—A Times special from Springfield, Ill., reports ex-Gov. Palmer as saying in regard to the announcement that he had received from S. J. Tilden a letter to the effect that he, Tilden, would be a candidate for president in 1884 provided Palmer would run for vice-president: "I have received no letter from Gov. Tilden on that or any other subject. I would not for a moment entertain a proposition of that kind. The publications on the subject have been entirely unauthorized and without a particle of foundation, and I wish it so stated."

And the Bridegroom Came Not

Logansport, Ind. Feb. 24.—A notable social event which was expected in this city last evening in the marriage of Mrs. H. M. Humes, a well-known and widely respected widow, to Douglass B. Stevens, has been indefinitely postponed. At 8:30, o'clock the bride-elect was arrayed in her wedding robes, the guests were assembled and the man of God stood ready to pronounce the ceremony, but the bridegroom failed to show up. Investigation revealed his presence in a down-town saloon in a beastly state of intoxication. The marriage guests adjourned sine die and the marriage will not take place.

Texas Tragedy.

Rice Tex, Feb. 28th.—J. W. Norris, postmaster and leading merchant, was called out from his house night before last, by two men who asked him to go to his store and sell them goods. He went but returned in a few minutes, told his wife the men had shot him and died almost instantly.

The Jeannette Search.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 23.—Lt Harbor and Martin Schutzo, of the U. S. navy, left to-day for Irkutsk in search of the Jeannette survivors.

BAILEY'S SALINE APERIENT.—This article has grown into rapid favor with the people—the masses, and very justly, too, because the proprietors were liberal enough to offer it at one-half the price such articles had been heretofore selling at. It is placed at 50 cents per bottle so all can afford to use so potent and pleasant a medicine. It is a charming purgative, well adapted to summer use, as it cools the system, cleanses the stomach, opens the bowels and unlocks the liver, while it is one of the most pleasant beverages in use. For immediate cure of sick headache, heartburn, etc., it has no equal.

You can buy a good pair of mittens now at Maddy's for 50c. 12-21

Caps at half price at Maddy's. 12-21

Boots and Shoes!
Ladies, Gents, Misses and Childrens, a low figure at the Factory Store. McClintock & Burns.

Lawyers.

HENRY A. MCGINDLEY.

ATTORNEY AT LAW, Butler Mo. Office east side of square, Edwards' block. Will practice in all the courts of Bates and adjoining counties, in the United States courts at Kansas City and Jefferson City, and in the Supreme court at St. Louis.

S. B. LASHBROOK. THOS. J. SMITH. LASHBROOK & SMITH, Attorneys at Law, Butler, Mo. Will practice in the courts of Bates and adjoining counties. Collections promptly attended to and Taxes Paid for Non-residents. Office, front room over Bates county National Bank. n2 tf.

S. C. HOLCOMB, Attorney at Law, Butler Mo. Office with Wm. Page, over Bank. n2 2m.

PARKINSON & AERNATHY, Attorneys at Law, Butler, Mo. Office west side of the square. 22

A. HENRY, Attorney at Law, Butler, Mo. Will attend to cases in any court of record in Missouri, and do general collecting business.

S. A. RIGGS, Attorney at Law and Notary Public. Office in Probate Court room.

H. CLAY TUTT, Attorney at Law, Butler, Mo. Special attention given to Probate business.

M. L. BROWN. T. HITER CROCKETT. BROWN & CROCKETT, Attorneys at Law and Insurance Agents, Rich Hill Mo. Collections a specialty. Office on sixth street, under City Hall.

JOHN S. & S. P. FRANCISCO, Attorneys at Law, Butler, Mo., will practice in the courts of Bates and adjoining counties. Prompt attention given to collections. Office over Hahn & Co.'s hardware store. 29

Physicians.

D. D. WOOD, Physician and Surgeon, Butler, Mo. Office over Aaron Hart's store.

T. C. BOULWARE, Physician and Surgeon. Office north side square, Butler, Mo. Diseases of women and children a specialty.

J. EVERINGHAM, M. D., Physician and Surgeon, Butler, Mo. Office west side of the public square, first door north of Olive House. Residence on west side of North Main street. Parties indebted to me over 30 days are requested to call and settle at once. c-11

Miscellaneous.

L. CULBERTSON, Real Estate Agent, Rich Hill Mo., P. O. Box 342. Correspondence solicited. no 41-tf.

D. V. BROWN, Judge of Probate, Butler Mo. Will draw and acknowledge deeds, contracts, leases and all papers requiring the acknowledgment or jurat of a clerk of a court of record.

R. S. KELSO, M. D. Physician and Surgeon. Office first door over Post o. 220-12-tf

R. A. BATHURST, Physician, Altona Mo. Will attend promptly to all professional calls. 13-tf

M. S. Cowles & Co.

Will be found in the large and spacious rooms under the Palace Hotel, where they have the largest and best stock of

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to be found in Southwest Missouri.

We buy direct from Manufacturer

ers, on large contracts for cash, and

can give to our patrons better goods

for less money, (or as low as any

House) in the State. Every one

cordially invited to visit us.

We also carry a large General

Stock of Merchandise at Rich

where Country Produce of all kinds

wanted.

M. S. COWLES & CO.

Every Department complete in itself, having a great variety of goods; in fact, one of the largest combination stocks to be found anywhere.

Our facilities for buying and selling goods are second to no house in the state, and we guarantee prices as low on same quality of goods.

OUR MOTTO:

"A noble penny rather than a low sixpence."

We cordially invite the people of Bates and adjoining counties to call on us and save money by so doing.

Administrator's Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given that letters of administration upon the estate of James M. Scott deceased, have been granted to the undersigned by the Bates county Probate court, in Bates county Missouri, bearing date the 24 day of February 1882. All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance within one year from the date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate; and if said claims be not exhibited within two years from date of the publication of this notice, they will be forever barred. 10 p. S. T. BROWN, Adm'r.